

HA-1483

1888

Ferry-Dunnigan-Lejeune House  
628-630 Rock Spring  
Bel Air  
private

This house is a rarity in Bel Air, a middle class double house produced by duplicating the front gable house. The floor plans are identical, and even the storage shed out back is divided right down the middle.

The house was built by entrepreneur Edward Ferry. He sold it to his mother, Barbara Dunnigan who kept the hotel at 33 Courtland. Their entangled financial empire came crashing down in a clot of lawsuits around 1900 and Augustine Lejeune bought the house for \$2245 at auction. She left it to her brother, General John Archer Lejeune, U.S.M.C.

—  
ADDENDA (May 1990)

Ferry-Dunnigan House  
628-630 Rock Spring Avenue  
HA-1483

Paragraph 1

- 1) Change Line 2 to read: " It is a four bay, two and a half story, **vinyl** shiplap house . . . "
- 2) Insert sentence on Line 5, following the sentence on the 4/4 windows to read: "The windows on both the north and south elevations are double-hung 6/6 sash."
- 3) Change Line 8 to read: "The original turn doorbell is still in **the south** door."
- 4) Change Line 10 to read: "A tongue and groove panel with a matching **latticework section** on top . . . "
- 5) Change the last sentence to read: "The house has two inside end chimneys with **slightly corbelled** caps."

Paragraph 2

- 1) Change the first sentence to read: "The house has a wide two bay **ell** with a shed roof porch on the rear (west) elevation."

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

HA-1483  
1314835604 (House)  
1314835605 (Shed)

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

Ferry-Dunnigan House

AND/OR COMMON

Lejeune House

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

628-630 Rock Spring

1st

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Bel Air

VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

Maryland

Harford

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

#### CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

☐ STRUCTURE

☐ SITE

☐ OBJECT

#### OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

#### PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

#### STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

☐ UNOCCUPIED

☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

#### ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☐ NO

#### PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE

☐ COMMERCIAL

☐ EDUCATIONAL

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☐ GOVERNMENT

☐ INDUSTRIAL

☐ MILITARY

☐ MUSEUM

☐ PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☐ RELIGIOUS

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ OTHER

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

F. Worth Riley

Telephone #: 838-3255

STREET & NUMBER

747 Roland Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21014

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #: 591

Folio #: 526

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED	slightly	

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This double Victorian house is at 628-630 Rock Spring Avenue in the Town of Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. It is a four bay, two and a half story shiplap house with a steep slate gable roof and twin front gables. The front gables have standard size 2/2 double-hung sash windows. All the other windows are also 2/2 except for the two first story front windows (east) which are 4/4. Major windows have wooden louvered shutters. The two front doors are in the middle two bays of the front elevation. A two pane transom tops a one pane over two panel door in each case. The original turn doorbell is still in each door. The front porch has a hipped roof and is carried on chamfered posts with thin carved brackets. The balustrade has plain square balusters. A tongue and groove panel with a matching balustrade on top divides the north half of the porch from the south half. The house has two inside end chimneys with corbel caps.

The house has a wide two bay back building with a shed roof porch on the rear (west) elevation. The middle portion of the porch is enclosed and serves as a pantry for each half.

The two portions of the house are mirror images of each other. A living room, dining room, and kitchen with pantry complete the first story. A semi-enclosed staircase along the middle partition to the second floor which has two bedrooms and a large bath made from the third bedroom. The attic level has one large room. The woodwork in both houses is entirely plain.

The south half (630) has a fireplace in the southeast corner. It has exposed brick now (it had been covered for many years) and barn wood panelling above the shelf.

A board and batten, gable roofed storage shed with exposed rafters is to the west of the house. It is divided down the middle just like the house.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1888

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This Victorian double house is unique in Bel Air: the only double middle class house in Town. It was built by Edward Ferry in 1888 on land he had leased in 1885 from Mary Dallam (52/248). At the time he was living next door at 626 Rock Spring, the house that subsequently became the home of the Stevenson Archer family. Ferry was a local entrepreneur, a lumber merchant and builder. His mother, Barbara Ferry Dunnigan, owned and operated Mrs. Dunnigan's Hotel at 33 Courtland (now the County Extension Agent's Office). Ferry and Dunnigan built the Old Aegis Building (29 Courtland) and the frame building to the west (31 Courtland). Ferry built several houses around Town, lived in them a while and then sold them and built another. Among them were the first house at 520 Mast, the previously mentioned 626 Rock Spring, this house, 703 Roland, and possibly others. He owned the lumber yard at the railroad station that was sold to Hanway & Keen and then to McComas brothers.

He may have built this double house for his mother. She was a 37 year widow and hotelkeeper in 1869 when she got a license to marry Barney Dunnigan. Dunnigan ran a liquor store until Local Option put him out of business. He seems to have been a good old B'houy around Town. In 1900 he and his wife were separated and she was living in Philadelphia with her son Edward Ferry. Dunnigan died in Bel Air in 1906. It is possible that Ferry built this house when his mother left her second husband. At any rate he conveyed it and the lumber yard property to her in 1889 for \$6000 (64/190). Mrs. Dunnigan and Ferry got into a financial tangle around the turn of the century and everything was sold up as a result of the suit of the Jarrettsville Building Association. It was at this time that Ferry and his mother were said to be living in Philadelphia.

The property was sold at auction in 1904 to Miss Augustine L. Lejeune for \$2245 (113/444). Miss Lejeune was the sister of Major General John Archer Lejeune, (see below) and the property was ideally suited to her for her cousin Mrs. Stevenson Archer lived next door. She lived in the north half of the house and rented the south half. She left the property to General Lejeune (will 19/383), who in turn left it to his wife, Ellie Harrison Lejeune, and then to his daughter Ellie Murdaugh Lejeune Glennon. She sold it to the present owner, F. Worth Riley, in 1962 (591/526).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Harford Democrat  
Who Was Who in the U.S.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

This property occupies parcel #112 in the Town of Bel Air, 90' x 200'

**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Marilynn Larew, Architectural Historian

3 December 1979

ORGANIZATION

Town of Bel Air

DATE

838-8700

STREET &amp; NUMBER

39 Hickory Avenue

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 267-1438

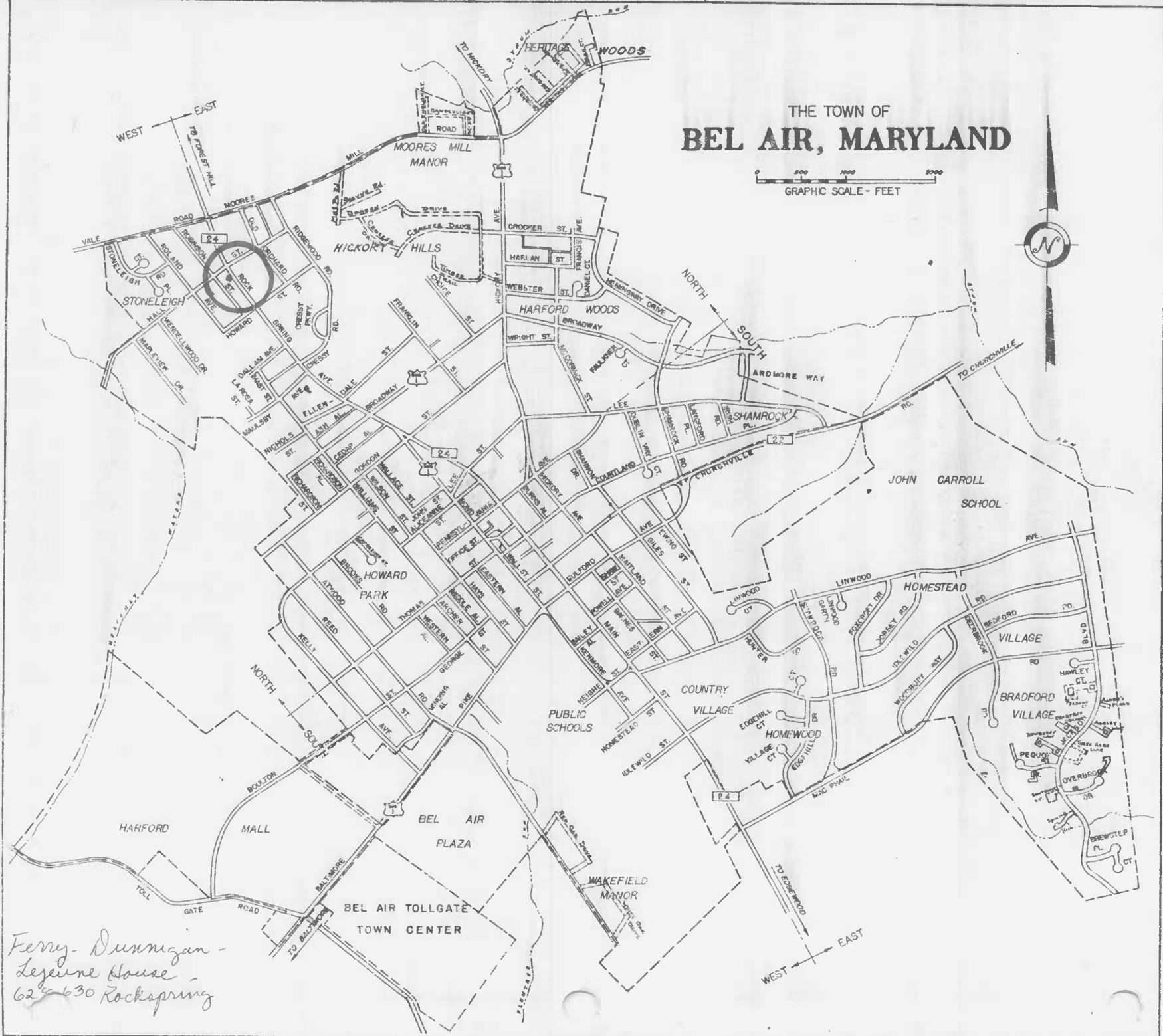
TITLE - 628-630 Rock Spring

591/526	2 May 1962 Ellie Murdaugh Lejeune Glennon & James to F. Worth Riley & Catherine
408/214	19 January 1954 Eugenia D. Lejeune & James Blair Glennon, trustee to Ellie Murdaugh Lejeune Glennon they were trustees under the will of Major General John Archer Lejeune (USMC Ret.) to hold the property in trust for Ellie Harrison Lejeune and then to convey to Ellie Murdaugh Lejeune. Ellie Harrison Lejeune, the general's widow, died 10 November 1953. General Lejeune inherited the property from his sister Augustine L. Lejeune (will 19/383)
113/444	15 December 1904 S. A. Williams, trustee to Augustine L. Lejeune \$2245 90' x 200' Williams was trustee in Jarrettsville Building Association vs Barbara Dunnigan et al
64/190	14 February 1889 Edward Ferry & Mary to Barbara Dunnigan \$6000 the Rockspring house & the property by the railroad (the lumber yard)
52/248	26 August 1885 Mary Dallam to Edward Ferry lease of the larger lot \$825 redemption after 5 years

John Archer Lejeune (1867-1942) was born in Pointe Coupee Parish, Louisiana, January 10, 1867. The Harford County Archers have had a southern connection at least since Judge Stevenson Archer was Territorial Judge of Mississippi Territory in 1819. Lejeune attended Louisiana State University from 1881-84 and graduated from the Naval Academy at Annapolis in 1888. In 1889 he was shipwrecked off Samoa in the hurricane. In 1890 he became a Second Lieutenant in the U. S. Marine Corps. He commanded the Marines aboard the U.S.S. Cincinnati during the Spanish-American War and commanded a battalion in the Panama Canal Zone, 1903-04. He was at Vera Cruz in 1914 with the Expeditionary Force, returning to Washington to serve as Assistant to the Commandant 1915-1917. He was promoted to Brigadier General in 1916. In 1917 he was commander at Quantico, Va. and became a Major General in 1918. He arrived in France with the A.E.F. in June, 1918. He commanded various brigades in World War I, serving in the Meuse - Argonne, at St. Mihiel and at the Swiss Border. He took part in the occupation of Metz and Coblenz, returning to the United States in 1919 to assume command of the Second Marine Division. He was promoted to Major General in 1920. He served as Commandant of the Marine Corps from 1920 to 1929. He retired in 1929 and died in 1942.

# THE TOWN OF BEL AIR, MARYLAND

0 500 1000 2000  
GRAPHIC SCALE - FEET



LA 1483

Ferry-Dunnigan-  
Lejeune House  
625-630 Rockspring



HA-1483 Ferry - Dunnigan - Lejeune House, 628-630 Rock  
Spring, Bel Air  
S + e elev.



NA-1483 Ferry - Dunnington - Lejeune House, 628-630 Rock Spring  
Bel Air  
w + s elev, house  
+ w + s elev, shed (NA-1483A)